



# (social) climbing



Chaz  
 [cvillette](#)

<https://cvillette.livejournal.com/>  
2008-01-01 10:50:00

MOOD: 😞 cold

MUSIC: Eric McFadden & Wally Ingram - Actual Size

Because I know my public (all five of you) awaits with bated breath  
the report on the social whirl that is my life....

First, I even shined my shoes. And found the lint roller. And used  
it, too.

It really should have been

 [trollcatz](#) (<https://trollcatz.livejournal.com/>) at that party, because  
she would have totally appreciated it.

And I'm sure if I paid more attention, I would have known who a lot  
more of those people were. But of the ones I did recognize, one  
was a High-Ranking Democrat (TM) who seemed a little uncertain  
of me at first when Tasha introduced me as "an FBI Special  
Agent," but warmed up fast. I only figured out later--me heap big  
profiler!--that she perked up when I started asking her about her  
constituents and what the demographic breakdown was, and that  
she had been dreading the Inevitable Gummint Employee  
Schmooze. (Tasha, over her shoulder, as she was leading me  
away from Her Highness after our allotted 4 minutes 59 seconds  
of Audience: "Surprisingly presentable, isn't he, considering where  
he works?" Her Highness: "Are you sure he's not a spy?" \*dies.\*)

It is really *weird* talking to people when you know a lot more about  
them than they know about you. Tasha was responsible for the  
"Ask them smart questions about what they do," strategy. I am  
filing it for later. I bet Lau knows how to do that.

I was smart enough to carb up like mad before I went, so I didn't  
either die of hunger or embarrass Tasha by acting like a metabolic  
freak\* in the buffet line (though I did impress her)--because there  
is a limit to how many virgin-White-Russian-please-use-real-cr  
eam you can order from one bartender in a four-hour period  
before she asks "So, you're not just trying to stay sober, are  
you?"\*\*

There was caviar. I hope it was lumpfish, because otherwise I will

have guilt about the thousands of baby endangered prehistoric fish-monsters currently enriching my bloodstream. They were enormously tasty, however, and it took extreme self-discipline not to make a pig of myself.

The sour cream is just to stick the caviar to the blini, people. You're not supposed to *swim* in it.

Also, tiny little mushroom puffs, and scallops with bacon, and cream puffs that rank in the top ten desserts I have ever eaten.

And I'm still not sure if that was, you know, a date date, or me being arm candy. Which is by itself funny enough that I could live off it for a week.

With my new fabulous hair, my future career as a gigolo is assured! Now I just need to find a nice older woman to take me to fancy restaurants and treat me indulgently.

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\*is it still acting if you *are* one?

\*\*for the record, that limit is nine.



#### [locked] Dream Journal

All right, unconscious mind. We're coming to an accommodation. If the dreams are you cleaning

#### Elvis doesn't live here anymore.

Hey there. Sorry about the drama. It was... it was an emotional decision, and I didn't

#### Puppets.

Puppets. Puppet puppets. Scary.

39 comments



trollcatz

January 1 2008, 16:02:48 UTC

COLLAPSE

The Rose Parade is on. (I wonder if Wonder Woman watches it. I should ask.)

46 floats! 40 million blossoms! A celebration of the cultures of the world! It's like Epcot Center in flower arranging!

Ah, but what we all want to know is, how's your hair this morning?

(also. OMG. *Hillary*?)



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 16:04:16 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Hah. No. Bet she's in Iowa this morning, cold and hung over.

(and my hair is still fabulous. Though maybe a little flat on one side.)



 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:38:16 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Moisten your fingers and rake through. Bounces it right back.



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:45:09 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

...

Is there like a biracial hair FAQ out there or something, or do you actually just *know* this stuff?

(You know how long it took me to figure out it looked better if I didn't wash it every single day?)



 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 21:00:19 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Yep--it's got its own built-in conditioner, and if you strip that out, you get dry, dull, and staticky. Gel with alcohol makes it worse.

It's like learning about sex, sweetie: the right way is to ask your friends on the street. 'Cause what do parents and teachers know about cool hair? \*g\*



*Deleted comment*



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 16:52:26 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Wrong House of Congress.



*Deleted comment*



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 17:01:32 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

\*conspiratorial silence\*

;-)

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 17:04:04 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

O! the glamor!

Smells good, doesn't she?



 [trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:08:14 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

You know what she smells like? o.0

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:11:01 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

old job.



 [trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:17:54 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

D'oh!



 [trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:14:25 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

EEEEEEEEE!

No, no, actually I would have been perfectly awful at that party. I'd have spilled something on someone. *University* parties make me nervous, man. You are the brave and daring one.

But oooh, it is so cool! Did you tell them which part of the building you worked in? (I mean, in general?) Did you get asked whether it's just like on TV? \*g\*

And wow, did Tasha know the Historical Personage well enough to introduce you? I didn't know aides had access.



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:20:54 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

I think Tasha may be like Wonder Woman.

No, we didn't talk about me. Thank God.



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:02:05 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

No, I am in error. There was one exchange of Bureauiness. The deputy mayor of Chicago was there and *recognized* me. I have no freakin' clue how. I got a thank-you for helping deal with the serial bludgeonings last spring. Surrounding people smiled and nodded and

talked about vigilance and response and good police work.

Do you know how weird that is? I'm standing there remembering Eddie and Dice and dead people and how fuckin' sad it all ways, and they're happy about getting criminals off the streets. They're right, but that still wasn't how it was.

That was when I snuck off to the lobby with the adorable overhyped phone. Needed to uncross my wires. Thanks, guys.

Dad can do this. Is it a learned skill, or just dissociative disorder?

 [Ometotchtli](#)

January 1 2008, 19:52:36 UTC [COLLAPSE](#)

He saw you on his teevee, man. WFLD Fox News Chicago. Nobody else looks like you, remember?

So they knew you were BAU? Anybody ask how old you are? Anybody turn faintly green when you told them? Tasha know about the doctorates yet? (Big Sis wants to know!)

Interesting thinko there-- "all ways." Your brain grepped two words for the price of one, and your Freudian slip is showing.

And your brain of course is shiny and right.

 [cvillette](#)

January 1 2008, 21:24:27 UTC [COLLAPSE](#)

The age question did come up. (The questioner was aged, female, and from one of the western states. You do not try to fob off the frontier women, ever.) So I told her. Things that went across her face included, "He's here because he's someone's kid," "He's here because someone called in a favor," "He's here pretending to be on the arm of the aide when he's really someone's boytoy.) (That took maybe ten seconds max.) Then Tasha mentioned what unit I was in, and I really got the hairy eyeball (that one was, "OMG, who is he blackmailing for that?")

So to save Tasha having to explain that she hadn't brought a political blackmailer to the party, I kind of mentioned the education thing, sort of.

Aaaaawkward.

Except then the interrogator seemed to think I was some sort of promising wunderkind. And I think flirted a little.

Interesting culture, these natives have...

 [Ometotchtli](#)[January 1 2008, 21:45:34 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

You are a promising wunderkind.

Would I keep you if you weren't?

 [trollcatz](#)[January 1 2008, 17:51:12 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

Oh, you shoulda seen the Honda float. It's a truck that turns into a space-fighter-plane. AWESOME.

 [cvillette](#)[January 1 2008, 18:11:22 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

transformer float!

 [trollcatz](#)[January 1 2008, 18:15:53 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

And it took five people to operate it, and one of 'em was a pyrotechnician, because it shot fire out the tailpipe.

Can I do that when I grow up?

 [cvillette](#)[January 1 2008, 18:21:14 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

There might be an opening on the bomb squad....

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 [cvillette](#)[January 1 2008, 16:51:51 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

Oh no. No photos on the internet.

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 [cvillette](#)[January 1 2008, 16:59:05 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

She'd break my fingers.

And my adorable overhyped phone.

 [trollcatz](#)[January 1 2008, 17:00:58 UTC](#)[COLLAPSE](#)

And since I'm the only medical help around--

Oh, wow, you should see this Mardi Gras float. Lion! Giant floral lion!

...I miss marching band.

I wonder if I could even *find* my sax. I bet it's in Dad's attic.

I wonder how much time it would take to get my embrasure back.



[trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:33:28 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Oh, and did you know they have a perpetual problem with the equestrian entries, trying to keep the horses from eating the flowers off the floats?

Parade geekery. I am not normal.



[cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:35:01 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Nom nom nom.

See, makes perfect sense to me.

Now get your butt off that Trio and come in here and help with the biscuits.



[trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 20:54:55 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

...

You're letting me near the biscuits?????



[trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 20:55:39 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

(And I didn't have my butt on it. They don't work if you do that.)



[cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 20:58:05 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

There is nothing lamer than geeks who IM each other from the next room. Unless it's geeks who *livejournal* each other from the next room.

q: why do geeks make better lovers?

a: because their first reaction to any interesting result is "I wonder if that's reproducible!"



 [trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 22:21:52 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Hee! Oh, it is so true.

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 [cvillette](#)

[January 14 2008, 17:32:22 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Oh, yes.

Except the high-functioning geek sets up some pro, the second time.

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:20:21 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Arm candy and caviar. Who are you, and how did you get my li'l bruddah's password?

(No, wait, you're him. The sturgeon musing gave it away.)



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:22:32 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

She's on to me!

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:30:14 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Nuthin' gets past me. Certainly not sturgeon embryos.



 [cvillette](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:31:54 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Sturgeon ova. They're unfertilized.

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:49:41 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

All the flava! Half the guilt!

 [Ometotchtli](#)

[January 1 2008, 18:27:58 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

*Tasha was responsible for the "Ask them smart questions about what they do," strategy.*

You know how to do that already, dude. It's interviewing the witnesses.

(Just remember not to start with, "What was your relationship to the deceased?"



[trollcatz](#)

[January 1 2008, 19:35:58 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

"What was your relationship to the outgoing administration?"



[cvillette](#)

[January 2 2008, 01:13:10 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

"I did not vote for the mumblemumblemumble boy, how 'bout them 'Skins, eh?"

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[\[locked\]](#) [Dream Journal](#)

All right, unconscious mind. We're coming to an accommodation. If the dreams are you cleaning

[Elvis doesn't live here](#)

[anymore.](#)

Hey there. Sorry about the drama. It was... it was an emotional decision, and I didn't

[Puppets.](#)

[Puppets.](#) [Poppet puppets.](#) [Scary.](#)